



Minute of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council

Date: Tuesday, 16 January 2018

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Cullen Community Centre

Members in attendance:

Stewart Black (Chair)

Dennis Paterson (Vice-Chair)

Steve Horrocks (Secretary)

Phil Lovegrove (Planning contact),

Colin Burch

Morag Innes

Councillors: Donald Gatt

Attendees:

Chris Flett, Alan Donn, Edwin Flett, Anne Morrison, Karen Smith, Angela Rose, Suzie Greig, Stan Slater

Apologies:

Cllrs Ron Shepherd & Theresa Coull.

1. Opening of meeting:

In the temporary absence of Stewart, Dennis opened the meeting by welcoming all present.

2. Outside Agencies Presentations

There were no Outside Agencies present.

3. Change of Office Bearers

Barry Addison had resigned as Treasurer but Norman Marwick's offer to take over this position had been accepted. Steve Horrocks had agreed to be Secretary of the CDCC. At this point Stewart Black arrived and took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Alan Donn said that his recollection of the discussion of the Fisherman's Barometer was that Donald Gatt had said he would pass the papers to the Legal Department of Moray Council for their opinion. Donald said that he had not but had said that he would look at them and give an opinion. Approval of the minutes was then proposed by Dennis and seconded by Phil.

5. Matters Arising

Road Markings Stewart reported that Moray Council had undertaken to look again at the road markings in Cullen Square and Binview Road. The previous Community Council had paid for some of the Remembrance Day wreaths laid the



previous year. It was agreed not to repeat this practice although the Council would listen to any specific requests for funding.

6. **Councillor's Report**

Donald said that he apologised for the state of Moray Council finances and said that as a result, there would be job losses and facilities would close. He reported that the Council had to make cuts of £15 million and that the current proposal was that there would be cuts amounting to £6.7 million and the remaining £8.3 million would come from the reserves. There was a query from Stan regarding income generation by Moray Council. Donald asked Stan to email him with his proposals.

7. **Treasurer's Report**

Stewart advised that in the absence of Norman, the new Treasurer, there was no report.

8. **Correspondence**

Phil advised that a leaflet from Moray Council had been put through his letter box. This was about future local planning and referred him to a website www.moray.gov.uk/mainissuesreport. Of significance was that an area between the football pitch and the caravan site was designated for tourism. No-one else at the meeting had received this leaflet.

Alan Donn spoke about a matched funding scheme for Harbours. He had circulated an email from the Scottish Government Regional Inshore Fisheries Group Chairman shortly before the meeting. It was discussed and Donald undertook to raise the matter at the Harbours Meeting the next day. **Action DG**

9. **Current Concerns** **Community Centre**

Karen Smith and Anne Morrison spoke about the future of the Community Centre. They were very concerned that as word spread of the possible closure, groups who use the centre would go elsewhere. The centre is not well promoted on the Moray Council website, particularly the residential accommodation which generates a lot of income. Donald advised that a decision on the future of the centre would not be made by the Council until 14 February.

The setting up of a Development Trust who would be able to operate the Centre was discussed. A meeting of the groups who use the centre had been held on Friday 12 January. This had been well attended and was successful in obtaining the minimum number of 20 people required to establish a development Trust had been achieved.

Dennis advised the meeting that he had written to the MP Douglas Ross and MSP Stewart Stevenson and asked for their help in pressuring the Council to delay any



plans for closure to allow the Development Trust to progress the acquisition of the Community Centre. The next stage would be a public consultation.

Harbour Wall

There was a discussion regarding the quality of the work being done to repair the harbour wall. Donald advised that this work was of a temporary nature to stabilise the wall before the Council decide on what the repair options and costs are.

Harbour Toilets

Alan raised the issue of the Harbour toilets being closed through the winter months. Donald reiterated the Council position which was that toilets could not be open at night due to fears of vandalism and the harbour toilets would not be open from October to April.

9. Projects:

There had been no progress on additional planter barrels or the painting of the toilets in the Square due to work being done on Castle Hill by those who would be involved in these projects.

10. AOCB

Fisherman's Barometer

Alan Donn again raised the question of the Fisherman's Barometer. Since the last meeting, Stewart had contacted both parties in the dispute but had been unable to achieve a compromise solution. It was explained to him that the Barometer is the subject of a legal dispute which CDCC does not have the resources to resolve. It was also pointed out to Alan that CDCC had been approached by him in 2014 about the Barometer and their view had also been that they could not get involved in a legal dispute.

11. Date, time and venue of next meeting

The meeting closed at 2145 hours. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 20 February 2018.